

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (Withdrawn-Currently Amended): A film-forming composition for hard capsules, comprising 7-12% by weight of starch, 1-6% by weight of a plasticizer, 0.7-3% by weight of a gelling agent, and 79-91.3% by weight of water based on the total weight of the composition, wherein the starch comprises 10-30% by weight of amylose.

Claim 2 (Canceled).

Claim 3 (Withdrawn): The composition of Claim 1, wherein the starch is selected any one from the group consisting of potato starch, waterchestnut starch, and mungbean starch.

Claim 4 (Withdrawn): The composition of Claim 1, wherein the plasticizer is any one selected from the group consisting of glycerol, sorbitol, polyethylene glycerol (PEG), mannitol, maltitol, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 5 (Withdrawn): The composition of Claim 1, wherein the gelling agent is any one selected from the group consisting of carrageenan, agar gum, pectin, alginate, gum arabic, xanthan gum, gellan, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 6 (Withdrawn): A method for preparing a film-forming composition for hard capsules, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) adding 1-6% by weight of a plasticizer based on the total weight of the composition to 79-91.3% of water based on the total weight of the composition, and stirring the solution at 25-60 °C;

(b) adding 0.7-3% by weight of a gelling agent based on the total weight of the

composition to the solution prepared in the step (a), and stirring the gelling agent-comprising solution at 50 ± 5 °C; and

(c) adding 7-12% by weight of starch based on the total weight of the composition to the solution prepared in the step (b), wherein the starch comprises 10-30% by weight of amylose, and stirring the starch-comprising solution while gradually elevating the temperature of the solution to 90 ± 5 °C.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A film-forming composition for hard capsules, comprising 5-11% by weight of waterchestnut starch or mungbean starch, 1-3% by weight of a plasticizer, and 88-94% by weight of water based on the total weight of the composition.

Claim 8 (Original): The composition of Claim 7, wherein the starch comprises 24-30% by weight of amylose.

Claim 9 (Original): The composition of Claim 7, wherein the plasticizer is any one selected from the group consisting of glycerol, sorbitol, polyethylene glycerol (PEG), mannitol, maltitol, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 10 (Withdrawn): A method for preparing a film-forming composition for hard capsules, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) adding 1-3% by weight of a plasticizer based on the total weight of the composition to 88-94% by weight of water based on the total weight of the composition, and stirring the solution at 25-60 °C; and

(b) adding 5-11% by weight of waterchestnut starch or mungbean starch based on the total weight of the composition to the solution prepared in the step (a), and stirring the starch-comprising solution while gradually elevating the temperature of the solution to 90 ± 5 °C.

Claim 11 (Withdrawn): A film for hard capsules, which comprises the composition of Claim 1.

Claim 12 (Withdrawn): A hard capsule comprising the composition of Claim 1.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): A film for hard capsules, which comprises the composition of Claim 7.

Claim 14 (Withdrawn): A hard capsule comprising the composition of Claim 7.